

Regarding docket 04-233

Regulation regarding media ownership rules must be strengthened. The permissive atmosphere and policy that allows Sinclair Broadcast Group to broadcast a partisan-oriented piece without balancing it out or removing it because it is unbalanced is detrimental to democracy. It also violates the spirit and guidelines of telecommunications: that the airwaves are public and, in essence, free of charge.

Sinclair's behavior shows exactly why media oligopoly undermines the public interest and destabilizes information and education in local communities everywhere.

Sinclair is, by law, supposed to serve the public interest (as well as pursue its for-profit ventures). Deregulation is not an answer, an ideal or a good vision for a balanced policy. The license renewal process needs to be strengthened and regulated in the public's interest first.